

at least two oxygen inlets associated with said at least one oxygen delivery tube and being disposed such that said oxygen flows from said at least one oxygen delivery tube through said oxygen inlets into the region of the nostrils of the patient, said oxygen inlets being such as to provide an oxygen stream in the region of the nostrils having a reduced force so that exhaled gases collected from said nostrils are generally undiluted by said oxygen.

rel. to what?

30. (New) The cannula according to claim 29, wherein said oxygen inlets are such as create an oxygen cloud near the nostrils of the patient, so that exhaled gases collected from said nostrils are generally undiluted by said oxygen.

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31. (New) The cannula according to claim 29, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises at least one hole in the wall of said oxygen delivery tube, said at least one hole possessing an internal diameter which increases from the inner surface of said oxygen tube to the outer surface of said oxygen tube.

32. (New) The cannula according to claim 30, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises at least one hole in the wall of said oxygen delivery tube, said at least one hole possessing an internal diameter which increases from the inner surface of said oxygen tube to the outer surface of said oxygen tube.

33. (New) The cannula according to claim 29, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets contains a screen made of a substantially porous material.

34. (New) The cannula according to claim 30, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets contains a screen made of a substantially porous material.

35. (New) The cannula according to claim 33, wherein said screen is constructed of a material selected from at least one of the group consisting of a hydrophobic porous material, a

wide mesh, cotton wool, and a netting.

36. (New) The cannula according to claim 34, wherein said screen is constructed of a material selected from at least one of the group consisting of a hydrophobic porous material, a wide mesh, cotton wool, and a netting.

37. (New) The cannula according to claim 29, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprise a second nasal prong constructed of a porous material and sufficiently short that said prong does not penetrate a nostril of the patient, such that oxygen is dispersed through said nasal prong in the region of the nostrils.

38. (New) The cannula according to claim 30, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises a second nasal prong constructed of a porous material and sufficiently short that said prong does not penetrate a nostril of the patient, such that oxygen is dispersed through said nasal prong in the region of the nostrils.

39. (New) The cannula according to claim 29, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises a plurality of holes.

40. (New) The cannula according to claim 30, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises a plurality of holes.

41. (New) A method of collecting exhaled gases from a patient having nostrils, and of supplying oxygen to the patient, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a cannula featuring:

a tube having at least one of a first nasal prong for the collection of said exhaled gases; and

at least one oxygen delivery tube, having associated with it at least two

oxygen inlets; and

(b) disposing said cannula such that said oxygen flows from said at least one oxygen delivery tube through said oxygen inlets into the region of the nostrils of the patient, said oxygen inlets being such as to provide an oxygen stream in the region of the nostrils having a ^{rel. weak fl.} reduced force so that exhaled gases collected from said nostrils are generally undiluted by said oxygen.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said oxygen inlets ^{are} such as create an oxygen cloud near the nostrils of the patient so that exhaled gases collected from said nostrils are generally undiluted by said oxygen.

43. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises at least one hole in the wall of said oxygen delivery tube, said at least one hole possessing an internal diameter which increases from the inner surface of said oxygen tube to the outer surface of said oxygen tube.

44. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises at least one hole in the wall of said oxygen delivery tube, said at least one hole possessing an internal diameter which increases from the inner surface of said oxygen tube to the outer surface of said oxygen tube.

45. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets contains a screen made of a substantially porous material.

46. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets contains a screen made of a substantially porous material

47. (New) The method of claim 45, wherein said screen is constructed of a material selected from at least one of the group consisting of a hydrophobic porous material, a wide mesh, cotton wool, and a netting.

48. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said screen is constructed of a material selected from at least one of the group consisting of a hydrophobic porous material, a wide mesh, cotton wool, and a netting.

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49. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises a second nasal prong, constructed of a porous material and sufficiently short that said prong does not penetrate a nostril of the patient, such that oxygen is dispersed through said nasal prong in the region of the nostrils.

50. (New) The method of claim 42, and wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises a second nasal prong, constructed of a porous material and sufficiently short that said prong does not penetrate a nostril of the patient, such that oxygen is dispersed through said nasal prong in the region of the nostrils.

51. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises a plurality of holes.

52. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein at least one of said oxygen inlets comprises a plurality of holes.